

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey Melcher on December 2, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

27. (Currently Amended) Method for making a cellular structure comprising a plurality of uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements having an open end, which method comprises the following steps:

- a) providing a first plurality of uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements standing on an open end and parallel to one another, which for a first row of elements;
- b) providing a second plurality of the uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements standing on an open end and parallel to one another, which form a second row of elements, the second row containing as many elements as the first row and being parallel to the first row but displaced by a certain distance in its longitudinal direction in relation to the first row, which distance is less than the extension of one of the uniform elements in the longitudinal direction of the two rows;
- c) applying an adhesive to the elements in at least one of the two rows;
- d) bringing at least one of the two rows closer to the other so that the two rows are brought together and thereby bonded to one another by the adhesive[.].,

wherein the second plurality of elements is provided in that elements intended to form the second plurality of elements are fed from two opposite directions, which opposite directions are both parallel to the first row of elements, the elements being transported until the elements that are fed in one direction meet elements that have been transported in the opposite direction and together with the elements transported from the other direction form a second row of elements, and the bringing of at least one of the two rows closer to the other taking place after the second row has been formed.

28. (Currently Amended) Method for making a cellular structure comprising a plurality of uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements having an open end, which method comprises the following steps:

- a) providing a first plurality of uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements standing on an open end and parallel to one another, which for a first row of elements;

Art Unit: 1791

- b) providing a second plurality of the uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements standing on an open end and parallel to one another, which form a second row of elements, which second row is parallel to the first row;
- c) applying an adhesive to the elements in at least one of the two rows;
- d) bringing at least one of the two rows closer to the other so that the two rows are brought together and thereby bonded to one another by the adhesive so that the two rows thereby form a composite cellular structure, which cellular structure is then located in a first position,[[;]]

wherein the second plurality of elements is provided in that elements intended to form the second plurality of elements are fed from two opposite directions, which opposite directions are both parallel to the first row of elements, the elements being transported until the elements that are fed in one direction meet elements that have been transported in the opposite direction and together with the elements transported from the other direction form a second row of elements, and the bringing of at least one of the two rows closer to the other taking place after the second row has been formed;

- e) providing a third plurality of the hollow circular-cylindrical uniform elements standing on an open end and parallel to one another, which form a third row of elements, which third row of elements is parallel to the first and second rows in the composite cellular structure;
- f) moving the cellular structure a certain distance in the longitudinal direction of the first and the second row of elements, so that the cellular structure is moved from the first position to a second position;
- g) applying an adhesive to the elements in at least one of the second row and third row, the adhesive being applied either before, after or at the same time as the cellular structure is moved to the second position;
- h) bringing the third row and the cellular structure together with one another so that they are thereby bonded to one another by the adhesive, due to which the third row becomes part of the cellular structure,[[.]]

wherein the third plurality of elements is provided in that elements intended to form the third plurality of elements are fed from two opposite directions, which opposite directions are both parallel to the first and second row of elements, the elements being transported until the elements that are fed in one direction meet elements that have been transported in the opposite direction and together with the elements transported from the other direction form a third row of elements, and the bringing of at least one of the third row and the cellular structure closer to the other taking place after the third row has been formed.

29. (Currently Amended) Method for making a cellular structure comprising a plurality of uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements having an open end, which method comprises the following steps:

- a) providing a first plurality of uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements standing on an open end and parallel to one another, which for a first row of elements;

Art Unit: 1791

- b) providing a second plurality of the uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements standing on an open end and parallel to one another, which forms a second row of elements;
- c) applying an adhesive to the elements in at least one of the two rows;
- d) bringing the elements in at least one of the two rows closer to the other so that the two rows are brought together and thereby bonded to one another by the adhesive to form a cellular structure thereby[[.]]

wherein the second plurality of elements is provided in that elements intended to form the second plurality of elements are fed from two opposite directions, which opposite directions are both parallel to the first row of elements, the elements being transported until the elements that are fed in one direction meet elements that have been transported in the opposite direction and together with the elements transported from the other direction form a second row of elements, and the bringing of at least one of the two rows closer to the other taking place after the second row has been formed.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim [[31]]29, wherein the feed from each direction is interrupted after a predetermined number of elements has been transported.

35. (Currently Amended) Method for making a cellular structure comprising a plurality of uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements having an open end, which method comprises the following steps:

- a) providing a first plurality of uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements standing on an open end and parallel to one another, which for a first row of elements;
- b) providing a second plurality of the uniform hollow circular-cylindrical elements standing on an open end and parallel to one another, which form a second row of elements, which second row is parallel to the first row but displaced in phase in relation to the first row;
- c) applying an adhesive to the elements in at least one of the two rows;
- d) bringing the elements in at least one of the two rows closer to the other so that the two rows are brought together and thereby bonded to one another by the adhesive to thereby form a composite cellular structure[[.]],

wherein the second plurality of elements is provided in that elements intended to form the second plurality of elements are fed from two opposite directions, which opposite directions are both parallel to the first row of elements, the elements being transported until the elements that are fed in one direction meet elements that have been transported in the opposite direction and together with the elements transported from the other direction form a second row of elements, and the bringing of at least one of the two rows closer to the other taking place after the second row has been formed.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) Method according to claim [[37]]35, wherein the feed from each direction is interrupted after a predetermined number of elements has been transported and that the second row and the first row are brought together with one another after the feed has been interrupted.

Claims 53-65 (cancelled) – Applicant authorizes cancellation of these withdrawn claims

Claims 30, 33-34, 36, and 39-41 are to remain as previously presented by Applicant.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 27-30, 32-36, and 38-41 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. The prior art, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or render obvious that the second plurality of elements is provided in that elements intended to form the second plurality of elements are fed from two opposite directions, which opposite directions are both parallel to the first row of elements, the elements being transported until the elements that are fed in one direction meet elements that have been transported in the opposite direction and together with the elements transported from the other direction form a second row of elements, and the bringing of at least one of the two rows closer to the other taking place after the second row has been formed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL LEE whose telephone number is (571)270-7711. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katarzyna Wyrozebski can be reached on (571)272-1127. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. L./
Examiner, Art Unit 1791

/KHANH NGUYEN/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1791